

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ROYAL SOCIETY OF LONDON

SERIES A

CONTAINING PAPERS OF A MATHEMATICAL AND
PHYSICAL CHARACTER.

VOL. XCVII

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR THE ROYAL SOCIETY AND SOLD BY
HARRISON AND SONS, ST. MARTIN'S LANE,
PRINTERS IN ORDINARY TO HIS MAJESTY.

AUGUST, 1920.

LONDON :
HARRISON AND SONS, PRINTERS IN ORDINARY TO HIS MAJESTY,
ST. MARTIN'S LANE.

CONTENTS.



SERIES A. VOL. XCVII.

No. A 681.—March 1, 1920.

	PAGE
An Experimental Determination of the Critical Electron Velocities for the Production of Radiation and Ionisation on Collision with Argon Atoms. By Frank Horton, Sc.D., Professor of Physics in the University of London, and Ann Catherine Davies, M.Sc., Royal Holloway College, Englefield Green. Communicated by C. T. R. Wilson, F.R.S.	1
An Investigation of the Effects of Electron Collisions with Platinum and with Hydrogen, to ascertain whether the Production of Ionisation from Platinum is due to Occluded Hydrogen. By Frank Horton, Sc.D., Professor of Physics in the University of London, and Ann Catherine Davies, M.Sc., Royal Holloway College, Englefield Green. Communicated by C. T. R. Wilson, F.R.S.	23
Colloidal Electrolytes—Soap Solutions and their Constitution. By James W. McBain and C. S. Salmon, Chemical Department, University of Bristol. Communicated by Prof. Sydney Young, F.R.S.	44
Discussion on the Theory of Relativity	66

No. A 682.—April 1, 1920.

On the Viscosity of Sulphur. By C. Coleridge Farr, D.Sc., F.P.S.L., Professor of Physics, and D. B. Macleod, M.A., B.Sc., Lecturer in Physics at Canterbury College, University of New Zealand. Communicated by Dr. C. Chree, F.R.S.	80
On Kaufmann's Theory of the Impact of the Pianoforte Hammer. By C. V. Raman, M.A., Palit Professor of Physics, and Bhabonath Banerji, M.Sc., Assistant to the Palit Professor, University of Calcutta. Communicated by Dr. Gilbert T. Walker, C.S.I., Sc.D., F.R.S.	99
Plane Strain: the Direct Determination of Stress. By S. D. Carothers, Assoc.M.Inst.C.E. Communicated by Prof. A. E. H. Love, F.R.S.	110
On Alternating Current Electrolysis. By S. Marsh, B.Sc., Ph.D., formerly Fellow of the University of Wales, Head of Department of Physics, Battersea Polytechnic, London. Communicated by E. H. Griffiths, Sc.D., F.R.S.	124
Note on the Central Differential Equation in the Relativity Theory of Gravitation. By Prof. A. R. Forsyth, F.R.S., Imperial College, South Kensington	145

No. A 683.—April 15, 1920.

On the Refraction and Dispersion of Carbon Dioxide, Carbon Monoxide, and Methane. By Clive Cuthbertson, O.B.E., F.R.S., and Maude Cuthbertson.....	152
The Capacity Coefficients of Spherical Conductors. By Alexander Russell, M.A., D.Sc., M.I.E.E. Communicated by Dr. C. Chree, F.R.S.....	160

	PAGE
The Lateral Vibrations of Sharply-pointed Bars. By J. W. Nicholson, F.R.S., Professor of Mathematics in the University of London	172
A New Method of Spectrophotometry in the Visible and Ultra-violet and the Absorption of Light by Silver Bromide. By R. E. Slade, D.Sc., F.I.C., and F. C. Toy, B.Sc. Communicated by Sir Herbert Jackson, F.R.S.	181
Further Experiments on the Variation of Wave-length of the Oscillations Generated by an Ionic Valve due to Changes in Filament Current. By J. H. Vincent, M.A., D.Sc. Communicated by Prof. W. H. Bragg, F.R.S. ...	191
On a Theory of the Second Order Longitudinal Spherical Aberration for a Symmetrical Optical System. By T. Y. Baker, Instructor Commander, R.N.; and L. N. G. Filon, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S., Goldsmid Professor of Applied Mathematics and Mechanics in the University of London. (Abstract)	196
A New Apparatus for drawing Conic Curves. By A. F. Dufton, B.A., Trinity College, Cambridge. Communicated by Prof. C. V. Boys, F.R.S.	199

No. A 684.—May 1, 1920.

The Pressure Distribution on the Head of a Shell Moving at High Velocities. By L. Bairstow, F.R.S., R. H. Fowler, and D. R. Hartree	202
An Experimental Determination of the Distribution of the Partial Correlation Coefficient in Samples of Thirty. By Captain J. W. Bispham, R.E. Com- municated by Prof. C. J. Martin, F.R.S.	218
The Relation between the Refractivity and Density of Carbon Dioxide. By P. Phillips, D.Sc. Communicated by Prof. A. W. Porter, F.R.S.	225
On the Viscosities and Compressibilities of Liquids at High Pressures. By J. H. Hyde, A.M.Inst.C.E., A.M.I.Mech.E. Communicated by Dr. J. E. Petavel, F.R.S.	240
A Study of Catalytic Actions at Solid Surfaces.—III. The Hydrogenation of Acetaldehyde and the Dehydrogenation of Ethyl Alcohol in Presence of Finely-divided Metals. By E. F. Armstrong, D.Sc., F.I.C., and T. P. Hilditch, D.Sc., F.I.C. Communicated by Prof. H. E. Armstrong, F.R.S.	259
A Study of Catalytic Actions at Solid Surfaces.—IV. The Interaction of Carbon Monoxide and Steam as Conditioned by Iron Oxide and by Copper. By E. F. Armstrong, D.Sc., F.I.C., and T. P. Hilditch, D.Sc., F.I.C. Com- municated by Prof. H. E. Armstrong, F.R.S.	265

No. A 685.—June 1, 1920.

The Theory of the Katharometer. By H. A. Daynes, M.Sc., University of Birmingham. (With an Introductory note by G. A. Shakespear.) Com- municated by Prof. S. W. J. Smith, F.R.S.	273
The Process of Diffusion through a Rubber Membrane. By H. A. Daynes, M.Sc. Communicated by Prof. S. W. J. Smith, F.R.S.	286
On the Structure of the Balmer Series of Hydrogen Lines. By T. R. Merton, M.A., D.Sc. Communicated by Prof. A. Fowler, F.R.S.	307

	PAGE
Diamagnetism due to Free Electrons. By H. A. Wilson, F.R.S., Rice Institute, Houston, Texas, U.S.A.	321
The Pressure upon the Poles of Metallic and Composite Arcs, including an Enquiry into the Reactions consequent upon Electron Emission. By W. G. Duffield, D.Sc., Professor of Physics, T. H. Burnham, B.Sc., and A. H. Davis, B.Sc., Post-Graduate Students in Physics, University College, Reading. Communicated by Prof. O. W. Richardson, F.R.S.	326
No. A 686.—July 1, 1920.	
Some Notes on Krypton and Xenon. By J. N. Collie, F.R.S.	349
The Supply of Energy from and to Atmospheric Eddies. By Lewis F. Richardson. Communicated by Sir Napier Shaw, F.R.S.	354
BAKERIAN LECTURE: Nuclear Constitution of Atoms. By Sir E. Rutherford, F.R.S., Cavendish Professor of Experimental Physics, University of Cambridge.....	374
Symmetrisable Functions and their Expansion in Terms of Biorthogonal Functions. By J. Mercer, M.A., D.Sc., Fellow and Lecturer of Christ's College, Cambridge. Communicated by Prof. E. W. Hobson, Sc.D., F.R.S.	401
No. A 687.—August 3, 1920.	
On the Conditions at the Boundary of a Fluid in Turbulent Motion. By T. E. Stanton, F.R.S., Miss Dorothy Marshall, B.Sc., and Mrs. C. N. Bryant. Communicated from the National Physical Laboratory	413
A Re-examination of the Light scattered by Gases in respect of Polarisation. I.—Experiments on the Common Gases. By Lord Rayleigh, F.R.S., Professor of Physics, Imperial College of Science, South Kensington	435
Note on the Influence of Temperature on the Rigidity of Metals. By A. Mallock, F.R.S.	450
An Extension of the Balmer Series of Hydrogen and Spectroscopic Phenomena of very long Vacuum Tubes. By R. W. Wood, For. Mem. R.S.	455

OBITUARY NOTICES OF FELLOWS DECEASED.

William Watson	i
James Emerson Reynolds	iii
A. G. Vernon Harcourt (with portrait)	vii
Ettrick William Creak	xi
Charles Edward Groves	xvii
Index	xix
